

REMARKS

Minor amendments have been made to the specification.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 14 have been amended for clarification, based upon the Examiner comments at page 11 of the Office Action. Support for the claim amendments can be found at FIGs. 4 and 5 and pages 9-11 of the specification. Claims 1-14 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:

As mentioned above, support for the claim amendments can be found at FIGS. 4 and 5. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection is overcome.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 5-6, 11-12 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112:

The claims have been amended to overcome the rejection. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-4, 7-10 AND 13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY KLUG (U.S. PATENT NO. 5,790,785)(previously cited):

Klug fails to disclose "a database held by an integrated membership management center, wherein when a user makes an application for a registration of membership information at one of the service provision sites by using said apparatus, the one of the service provision sites receiving the application registers at least a part of the membership information into the database held by the one of the service provision sites first, and then when the user is not registered in the database held by the integrated membership management center, the membership information of the user is subsequently transferred to the integrated membership management center and registered into the database held by the integrated membership management center," as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

Instead, Klug discloses a WWW registration website used as a repository for registration information so that the user can request this registration information to be transmitted to another website to which the user desires to register (see column 1, line 60- column 2, line 2).

That is, in Klug, the user is not registering at a third party site first and then subsequently registering at the registration website. Instead, in Klug the user either registers directly at the

registration website or at user's client node of the user's WWW browser via an optional registrar registration module (see column 2 lines 37-49).

Therefore, the teachings of Klug are fundamentally different from that of the present invention.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences of various other rejected claims over the cited reference. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 5-6, 11-12 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER KLUG IN VIEW OF HUNT (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,496,855)(previously cited):

The comments mentioned above in Section III, may be applied here also, where applicable.

The Applicant respectfully submits that Hunt fails to make up for the deficiencies of Klug as mentioned above, in Section III.

Instead, FIG. 5 of Hunt discloses a case when an Internet user is already a member of both the RAS and a particular website. In this case, the user is seeking a more convenient way to sign in to the website. As shown in FIG. 5, the user clicks on the RAS button and a RAS pop-up window appears over the browser window of the particular website. The user enters their user name and password for the RAS and selects the option that says that they are already a member of the particular website. The user then clicks "enter" and a new page appears with a request for the user's current login details for the particular site (see column 8, lines 56-67). Further, the user enters their current login details for the particular site and then clicks the enter button. The user's RAS home page then appears showing the particular site as a registered site. A personal profile for this site is created and stored in the user's profile database for future use (see column 9, lines 1-4). That is, in Hunt, the user is already a member of the central registration database (RAS) and a member of the particular website.

Therefore, the combination of Klug and Hunt fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness over the claimed invention. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore, defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

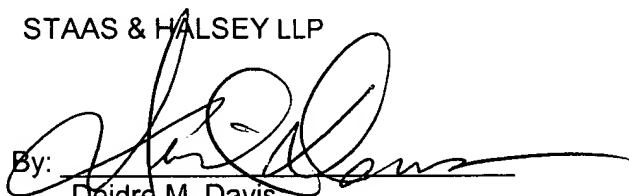
Respectfully submitted,

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